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Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and
American Literature

Guide to the

Vita Sackville-West collection of papers

1911]-1962 [bulk 1921-1962]

Berg Coll MSS Sackville-West

Processed by Staff.

Summary

Creator: Sackville-West, V. (Victoria), 1892-1962

Title: Vita Sackville-West collection of papers

Date: 1911]-1962 [bulk 1921-1962]

Size: 1,177 items

Source: This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources.

Abstract: This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts and typescripts, a diary for 1928, a notebook from 1913, and correspondence.

Access: Restricted access.

Conditions Governing Use: For permission to publish, contact the Curator, The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature.

Preferred citation: [Identification of the item]. The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature, The New York Public Library.

Language of the Material: Some material in Spanish

Processing note: Processed by Staff; Machine-readable finding aid created by Lynn Lobash and Nina Schneider.

Creator History

Victoria Sackville-West, better known as Vita, was a British novelist, poet, and writer of gardening books.

Custodial History

Some of the materials were formerly owned by Mina Kerstein Curtiss, Alvilde Lees-Milne, and Virginia Woolf.

Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts and typescripts, a diary for 1928, a notebook from 1913, and correspondence. The manuscripts include holographs of her novels, poems, biographies, and a translation, as well as a manuscript by Humbert Wolfe mentioning the author. The correspondence, dating from [1911] to 1962, includes letters to Lascelles Abercrombie, Alvilde Lees-Milne, Sir Edward Howard Marsh, Aileen Pippett, Edward Sackville-West, May Sarton, Leonard Sidney Woolf, Virginia Woolf, and others. Also present are letters relating to the author, dating from [ca. 1919] to 1962, between various correspondents, including Harold George Nicolson, Alvilde Lees-Milne, Virginia Woolf, Siegfried Sassoon, and others. There are letters to Sackville-West from Vanessa Bell, Louise Genoux, Harold George Nicolson, Aileen Pippett, Leonard and Virginia Woolf, dating from 1922 to 1956.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Correspondence

Diaries

Notebooks

Names

Sackville-West, V. (Victoria), 1892-1962

Abercrombie, Lascelles, 1881-1938

Bell, Vanessa, 1879-1961

Curtiss, Mina Kirstein, 1896-

Genoux, Louise

Lees-Milne, Alvilde

Lees-Milne, Alvilde

Marsh, Edward Howard, Sir, 1872-1953

Nicolson, Harold, 1886-1968

Pippett, Aileen

Sackville-West, Edward, 1901-1965

Sarton, May, 1912-1995

Sassoon, Siegfried, 1886-1967

Wolfe, Humbert, 1885-1940

Woolf, Leonard, 1880-1969

Woolf, Virginia, 1882-1941

Woolf, Virginia, 1882-1941

Container List

Manuscripts and Typescripts

Diaries

- Manuscript box [Diary of a journey to France with Virginia Woolf in 1928] Holograph 1928
Sept. 24 - 1928 Sept. 30 (5 p) (5 p)

Notebooks

- Cased Notebook containing names and addresses of guests invited to her wedding to Harold Nicolson. Holograph. Drawings by Harold Nicolson 1913
Oct. 1 (1 v) (1 v)

Manuscripts and Typescripts written by Sackville-West

- Oversize (+) Calendar for 1947; extracts from *The Garden* by V. Sackville-West. Typescript with the author's ms. corrections n.d. (2 p) (2 p)
Enclosed in her: 2 ALS, 5 TLS to Erica Marx. 1946-[1959?] Letter of Aug. 17, 1946
- Oversize (+) *Dark island, The*. Holograph. In case 1933 Sept. 19 - 1934 July 10 (5 v) (5 v)
Laid in: letter from the Manager of The Hogarth Press to the author, relating to the blurb of her book; also, manuscript page in an unidentified hand
- Oversize (+) [Daughter of time] Holograph. Includes 74 typewritten pages n.d. (569 p) (569 p)
- Oversize (+) [Eagle and the dove, The] Holograph. Pages 1 and 34 wanting. Appendix contains 103 pages 1943 Feb. 9 (220 p) (220 p)
Correspondence with booksellers, two bills, 4 p. ms. notes and photograph of El Greco's view of Avila laid in
- Oversize (+) *Easter party, The*. Holograph 1950 Apr. 18 - 1952 Apr. 18 (190 p) (190 p)
- Cased *Heir, The*. Holograph. Bound 1919 Nov. 9 - 1921 Mar. 2 (1 v) (1 v)
Includes her: *Patience*. Holograph, undated. 14 p.; with numerous pen-and-ink sketches and 5 p. of poetry
- Manuscript box *In New England*. Typescript of poem n.d. (2 p) (2 p)
Came with her correspondence with Mina Stein Kerstein Curtiss
- Oversize (+) *Knole*. Holograph n.d. (293 p) (293 p)
- Manuscript box *Marriage*. Holograph of unfinished play 1921 (32 p) (32 p)
- Oversize (+) *No signposts in the sea*. Holograph 1959 Feb. 15 - 1960 Feb. 6 (130 p) (130 p)
- Oversize (+) *No signposts in the sea*. Typescript 1959 Feb. 15 - 1960 Feb. 6 (143 p) (143 p)
With six letters relating to publication. 1 p. ms. notes and 1 p. typewritten poem
- Cased *Patience*. Holograph n.d. (14 p) (14 p)
With her: *The heir*. Holograph
- Oversize (+) [Pepita] Holograph 1934 July 2 (255 p) (255 p)
- Manuscript box. In envelope postmarked Sept. 9, 1955 [Poem] Holograph n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
Came with her letters to Alvilde Lees-Milne
- Manuscript box [Poem] Holograph. In Spanish n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
Came with her letters to Alvilde Lees-Milne
- Oversize (+) [St. Joan of Arc]. Holograph. Chapter 1 wanting; chapters 2-13 and 39 unassigned pages present n.d. (445 p) (445 p)
- Oversize (+) *Seducers in Ecuador*. Holograph n.d. (53 p) (53 p)
With 5 pages that were not printed and AN to Miss Hamill to that effect

Manuscripts and Typescripts relating to Sackville-West

Manuscripts and Typescripts (cont.)

Manuscripts and Typescripts relating to Sackville-West (cont.)

Manuscript box.
In: Sackville-West,
Victoria Mary. 203
ALS, 8 AL (2
incomplete), 1
postcard to
Virginia Woolf.
1923-1941. Letter
of Aug. 21 [1928]
Folder 21

Rilke, Rainer Maria. [Duineser Elegien. The first elegy] "How strange it is to live no more on earth." Manuscript translation of 13-line excerpt by Victoria Mary Sackville-West n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
Published: London, Hogarth Press, 1931, p. 12, 14

Manuscript box

Wolfe, Humbert. Wagon-litters. Holograph fragment of play. Mentions Victoria Sackville-West and Harold Nicolson n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

Correspondence

Outgoing Correspondence

Manuscript box

Abercrombie, Lascelles. TNS to 1931 July 24 (1 p) (1 p)

Manuscript box

Bason, Frederick T. ALS to Feb. 6 (1 p) (1 p)

Manuscript box

Carroll, [--?]. 2 TLS to 1954 Mar. 25, 1954 Apr. 13 (1 p. each) (1 p. each)

Manuscript box

Curtiss, Mina Stein Kirstein. 6 ALS, 2 TLS, 1 postcard to 1933 Apr. 7] - 1950 Jan. 2 (9 letters in 2 folders) (9 letters in 2 folders)
Accompanied by Christmas card for 1937

Manuscript box

Fuller, Mabel. TLS to 1935 May 31 (1 p) (1 p)
Enclosed in: Sackville-West, Victoria Mary. 67 ALS, 1 TLS, 3 postcards to Edward Sackville-West. 1924-1961. Letter of May 31, 1935. Folder 3

Manuscript box

Hearsey, Marguerite. ALS, 2 TLS to 1932 Nov. 11 - 1935 Feb. 6 (3 letters) (3 letters)

Manuscript box

Lees-Milne, Alvilde. 254 ALS, 20 ALS, 6 ANS to 1953 May 21 - 1962 May 11 (280 letters in 57 folders) (280 letters in 57 folders)

Manuscript box

Lees-Milne, James. ALS to 1957 July 7 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
Came with her letters to Alvilde Lees-Milne

Manuscript box

Ling, Shu-hua. 40 ALS, 2 postcards to 1950 Apr. 13 - 1958 June 5 (42 letters in 9 folders) (42 letters in 9 folders)

Manuscript box

McNeal, [--?]. ALS to n.d. (1 leaf) (1 leaf)

Manuscript box

Marsh, Sir Edward Howard. 19 ALS to [1911] - [n.d (19 letters in 4 folders) (19 letters in 4 folders)

Oversize (+)

Marx, Erica. 2 ALS, 5 TLS to. Relate mainly to publication of calendar for 1947 by the Hand of flower press 1946 Aug. 6 - [1959? Dec (7 letters) (7 letters)
With TL (carbon) reply, Dec. 7, 1959; Letter of Aug. 17, 1946 encloses her: Calendar for 1947; extracts from The Garden by V. Sackville-West. Typescript with the author's ms. corrections, undated. 2 p.; accompanied by related correspondence, etc.

Manuscript box

Pinker and son, James B. LS to 1933 Dec. 30 (1 p) (1 p)
B.

Manuscript box

Pippett, Aileen. 14 ALS, 9 TLS to 1953 Mar. 14 - 1959 July 12 (23 letters in 5 folders) (23 letters in 5 folders)
Accompanied by: Pippett, Aileen. 1 TLS, 13 TL (carbon), 2 telegrams to Vita Sackville-West, March 26, 1953-Oct. 22, 1956; Pippett, Aileen. 2 TL (carbon) to Leonard Woolf, Jan. 17 and Feb. 10, 1955. Folders 2 and 3

Manuscript box

Sackville-West, Edward. 67 ALS, 1 TLS, 3 postcards to 1924 Dec.] 31 - [1961] Dec. 21 (71 letters in 13 folders) (71 letters in 13 folders)
Letter of May 31, 1935 encloses: Sackville-West, Victoria Mary. TLS to Mabel Fuller, May 31, 1935. 1 p. in folder 3

Manuscript box

Sackville, Victoria Josephine Sackville-West, lady. 343 ALS, 12 ANS, 2 telegrams, 9 postcards to 1913 Oct. 2] - 1925 July 8 (366 letters in 55 folders) (366 letters in 55 folders)

Correspondence (cont.)

Outgoing Correspondence (cont.)

- Manuscript box Sarton, May. ALS to 1958 Feb. 22 (3 p) (3 p)
- Manuscript box Summers, [--?]. ALS to 1945 Aug. 7 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Woolf, Leonard Sidney. 2 ALS, 1 TLS to. One dated 1950 May 28 (3 letters) (3 letters)
- Manuscript box Woolf, Virginia. 203 ALS, 8 AL (2 incomplete), 1 postcard to [1923] Mar. 26 - 1941 Mar. 6 (212 letters in 42 folders) (212 letters in 42 folders)
Letter of March 14 [1928] encloses: Genoux, Louise. ALS to V. M. Sackville-West, March 3 [1928]. 1 p. in folder 20. In her letter of Aug. 21 [1928]: Rilke, R. M. [Duineser Elegien. The first elegy] "How strange..." Ms. trans. by V. M. Sackville-West.

Incoming Correspondence

- Manuscript box (Woolf) Bell, Vanessa. ALS to Sackville-West. Mentions Julian Bell and Virginia Woolf [1937] Aug. 16 (1 p) (1 p)
Came with Virginia Woolf's correspondence with Victoria Mary Sackville-West
- Manuscript box Genoux, Louise. ALS to Sackville-West [1928] Mar. 3 (1 p) (1 p)
Enclosed in: Sackville-West, Victoria Mary. 203 ALS, 8 AL (2 incomplete), 1 postcard to Virginia Woolf. 1923-1941. Letter of March 14 [1928]. Folder 20
- Manuscript box Nicolson, Harold George. ALS and postcard to Sackville-West 1922 Jan. 16, 1922 Dec. 4 (2 letters) (2 letters)
- Manuscript box. In: Sackville-West, Victoria Mary. 14 ALS, 9 TLS to Aileen Pippett. March 14, 1953-Oct. 22, 1956 Pippett, Aileen. 1 TLS, 13 TL (carbon), 2 telegrams to Sackville-West 1953 Mar. 26 - 1956 Oct. 22 (16 letters in 5 folders) (16 letters in 5 folders)
- Manuscript box Woolf, Leonard Sidney. 2 ALS to Sackville-West 1925 Dec. 16, 1929 Feb. 15 (1 p.; 3 p) (1 p.; 3 p)
Came with Virginia Woolf's correspondence with V. M. Sackville-West
- Manuscript box Woolf, Virginia. 387 ALS, 36 AL, 3 TL, 7 miscellaneous pieces to Sackville-West. Letter of Jan. 6 [n.y.] in hands of Duncan Grant and Leonard Woolf [1922] Dec. 28 - [1941 Mar. 22 (433 letters in 84 folders) (433 letters in 84 folders)
Letter of Jan. 6 [n.y.] signed by Grant, L. Woolf, V. Woolf, Roger Fry, Quentin Bell, and Vanessa Bell. Letter of [July 6, 1930] encloses Sackville-West's ALS to Lady Maud Cunard. [July 7, 1930] 1 p. Not sent. Folder 46

Related Correspondence

- Manuscript box (Sackville-West, V.) Codrington, Ursula. ANS to Shu-hua Ling. Relates to the death of Vita Sackville-West [1962] June 3 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box (Sackville-West, V.) Nadie, Marie L., ALS to Lady Victoria Josephine Sackville-West 1921 Nov.7 - 1923 March 29 (23 letters in 4 folders) (23 letters in 4 folders)
- Manuscript box Nicolson, Harold George. 3 TLS, 3 TNS to Alvilde Lees-Milne 1959 June 16 - 1962 June 9 (6 letters) (6 letters)
Came with Vita Sackville-West's letters to Alvilde Lees-Milne
- Manuscript box Nicolson, Sir Harold George. 5 ALS to Virginia Woolf 1927 Oct. 22 - 1928 Mar. 7 (5 letters) (5 letters)
Came with Victoria Mary Sackville-West's correspondence with Virginia Woolf
- Manuscript box Sassoon, Siegfried Lorraine. ALS to S[--?] M[--?] Ellis. Relates to Victoria Mary Sackville-West [after 1919] July 15 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
- Manuscript box Woolf, Virginia. 5 ALS to Sir Harold George Nicolson 1927 June 15] - 1928 Oct. 7 (5 letters) (5 letters)
With TL (copy) of letter of Sun. [Jan. 29, 1928] with V. M. Sackville-West's ms. note at top

Correspondence (cont.)

Related Correspondence (cont.)

Manuscript box

Woolf, Virginia. ALS to Lady Victoria Josephine Sackville-West 1926 Mar. 7
(1 leaf) (1 leaf)

Came with Victoria Mary Sackville-West's correspondence with Virginia Woolf